

Uric acid and Kidney disease

Bystander or Culprit

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Physiology

- Uric acid is a weak acid trioxypurine (M.W. 168) that is composed of a pyrimidine and imidazole substructure with oxygen molecules, which is produced primarily in the liver, muscle, and intestine.
- The immediate precursor of uric acid is xanthine, which is degraded into uric acid by xanthine oxido-reductase.
- Both exogenous (present in fatty meat, organ meats, and seafood) and endogenous purines are major sources of xanthine and uric acid in humans.
- Fructose, such as from added sugars and fruits, is another major source of uric acid.

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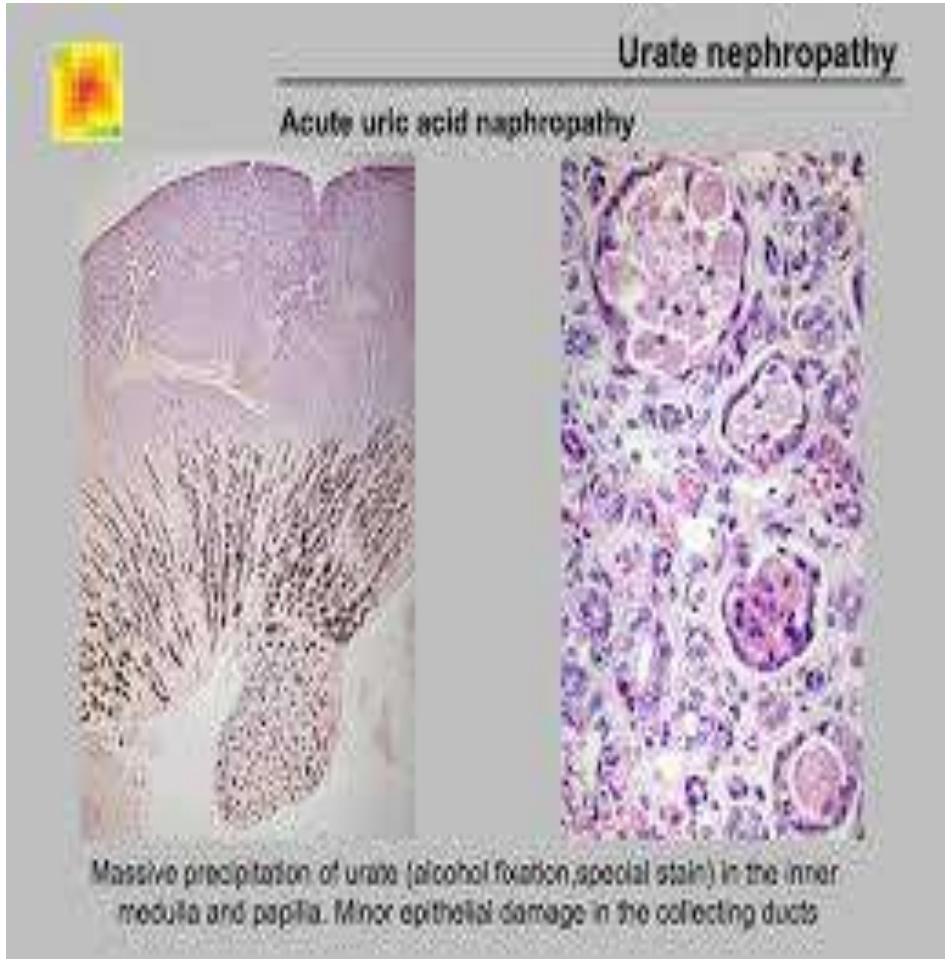
- Approximately two thirds of total body urate is produced endogenously, while the remaining one third is accounted for by dietary purines.
- The primary site of excretion of uric acid is the kidney. The normal urinary
- urate excretion in the range of 250 to 750 mg per day, approximately 70% of the daily urate production.

Contd.,

- The classic paradigm of uric acid excretion consists of a four-step model with filtration, reabsorption, secretion, and postsecretory reabsorption; the latter three processes occur in PCT.
- More recently emphasis has focused on the role of specific transporters, such as URAT1, SLC2A9, and others.
- The fractional urate excretion is only 8% to 10% due to reabsorption in PCT.
- Some adaptation occurs with renal disease, in which the fractional excretion of urate will increase to the 10% to 20%. The remainder of uric acid excretion occurs through the gut, where uric acid is degraded by uricolytic bacteria.
- The gastrointestinal tract may eliminate up to one-third of the daily uric acid load in the setting of CKD.

Spectrum

- Acute gouty nephropathy
(TLS, mechanical obstruction of tubules)
- Uric acid nephrolithiasis
(5-10% of renal stones, acidic urine)
- HUA after renal Tx
- **Chronic gouty nephropathy?????**



Chronic gouty nephropathy?????

- The identity of this condition fell in question as the presence of these crystals may occur in subjects without renal disease.
- The focal location of the crystals could not explain the diffuse renal scarring present.
- Many subjects with gout also had coexistent conditions such as hypertension and vascular disease, leading some experts to suggest that the renal injury in gout was secondary to these latter conditions rather than to uric acid per se

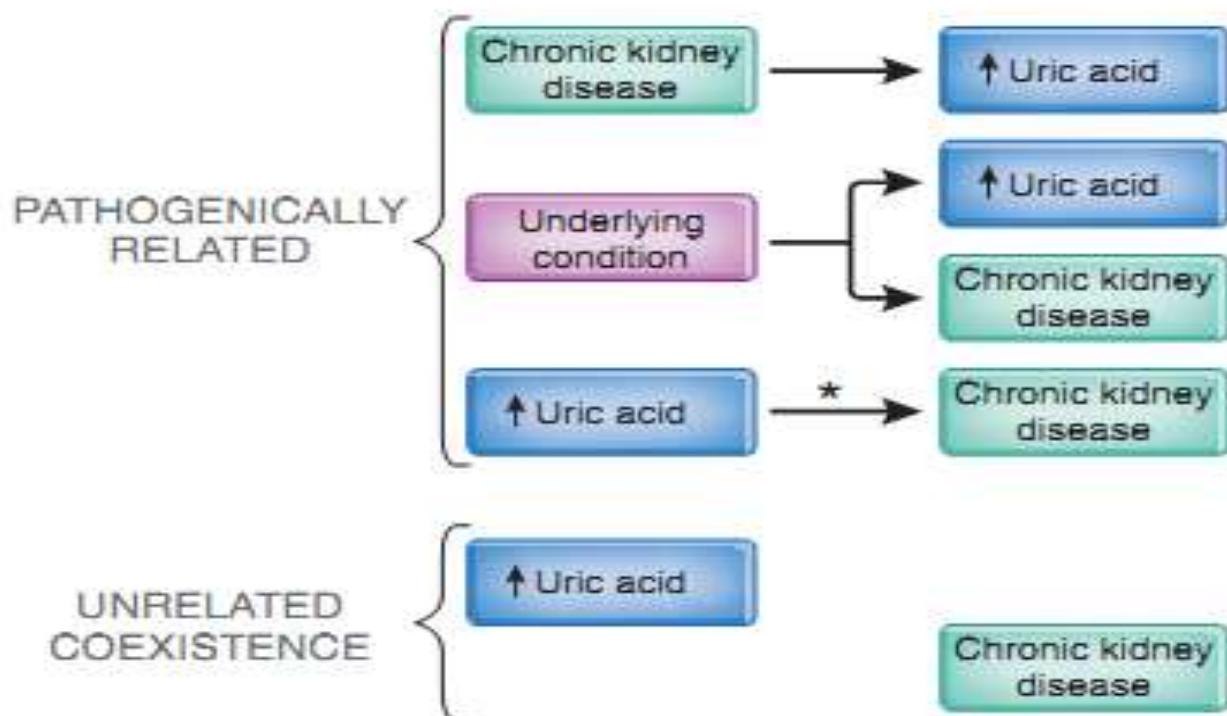
Nature of relation?

CLINICAL COMMENTARY

www.jasn.org

Posing the Question Again: Does Chronic Uric Acid Nephropathy Exist?

Orson W. Moe



Pros

Table 2 Epidemiological studies linking uric acid to chronic kidney disease

Ref.	Numerosity	Major findings
Madero <i>et al</i> ^[28]	840	CKD 3–4 and uric acid correlate with death but not with ESRD
Domrongkitchaiporn <i>et al</i> ^[29]	3499	Hyperuricemia (> 6.29 mg/dL) associated with increased odds (1.68) of reduced renal function
Iseki <i>et al</i> ^[30]	48177	Uric acid > 8 mg/dL increased CKD risk three-fold in men and 10-fold in women
Obermayr <i>et al</i> ^[31]	21475	Uric acid > 7 mg/dL increased risk of CKD 1.74-fold in men and 3.12-fold in women
Hsu <i>et al</i> ^[32]	177750	Higher uric acid quartile conferred 2.14-fold increased risk of ESRD over 25 years
Borges <i>et al</i> ^[33]	385	Elevated uric acid associated with 2.63-fold increased risk of CKD in hypertensive women
Chen <i>et al</i> ^[34]	5722	Uric acid associated with prevalent CKD in elderly
Sturm <i>et al</i> ^[35]	227	Uric acid predicted progression of CKD only in unadjusted sample
Weiner <i>et al</i> ^[36]	13338	Each 1 mg/dL increase in uric acid increased risk of CKD 7%–11%
Chonchol <i>et al</i> ^[37]	5808	Uric acid strongly associated with prevalent but weakly with incident CKD
Bellomo <i>et al</i> ^[38]	900	Each 1 mg increase in uric acid associated with 1.28 odds ratio of reduced eGFR at 5 years
Ben-Dov <i>et al</i> ^[39]	2449	Uric acid > 6.5 mg/dL in men and > 5.3 mg/dL in women, associated with hazard ratios of 1.36 for all-cause mortality and 2.14 for incident CKD

Hyperuricemia and the Progression of Chronic Kidney Disease: Is Uric Acid a Marker or an Independent Risk Factor?

Advances in Chronic Kidney Disease, Vol 19, No 6 (November), 2012: pp 386-391

Table 1. Summary of the Level of Evidence of the Association of Uric Acid With CKD

Type of Study	Evidence of Association
Animal models	Yes
Cross-sectional	Yes
Incident CKD	Mixed, but most studies show a positive association
Progression of established kidney disease	Most studies show a negative association
Transplantation graft loss/graft function	Most studies show a negative association (those that controlled for baseline kidney function)

- Marker in subtle renal injury
- Risk factor in early CKD(1,2) not late CKD(3-5)

Nephro Urol Mon. 2015 May; 7(3): e27233.

DOI:10.5812/numonthly.7(3)2015.27233

Published online 2015 May 23.

Review Article

Associations Between Hyperuricemia and Chronic Kidney Disease: A Review

Cons.

Nephrol Dial Transplant (2015) 0: 1–7
doi: 10.1093/ndt/gfv225



Original Article

Uric acid is not associated with decline in renal function or time to renal replacement therapy initiation in a referred cohort of patients with Stage III, IV and V chronic kidney disease

Methods. We analysed data in the Swedish Renal Registry-Chronic Kidney Disease (SRR-CKD), which is a nationwide registry of referred CKD patients. Patients with a visit between January 1st, 2005 and December 31st, 2011

Results. There were 2466 patients

Conclusion. UA is not associated with the rate of decline in renal function or time to start of RRT in Stage III, IV and/or V CKD patients.



- A possible explanation for the discrepancy between the effect of UA in early-stage CKD (I and II) and later-stage CKD (III–V) is that:

Patients with CKD III–V have already sustained considerable damage to the kidney, which leaves little room for UA to cause further harm.

Renal Tx



*World Journal of
Nephrology*

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DOI: 10.3927/wjn.v4.i3.324

World J Nephrol 2015 July 6; 4(3): 324-329
ISSN 2220-6124 (online)

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EDITORIAL

Asymptomatic hyperuricemia following renal transplantation

- Evidence supports No ttt unless symptomatic

following renal transplantation. The prevalence of **hyperuricemia** in recipients of a renal allograft has been shown to range from **19% to 55%** in patients whose immunosuppressive regimen did not include cyclosporin A (CsA) and from **30% to 84%** in patients treated with CsA^[7]. In the same series, incident **gout** was not observed in non-CsA treated patients, whereas it ranged from **2.0% to 28%** following CsA therapy. More

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Table 3 Studies investigating the association between serum uric acid and renal function/grant survival in patients with kidney transplantation

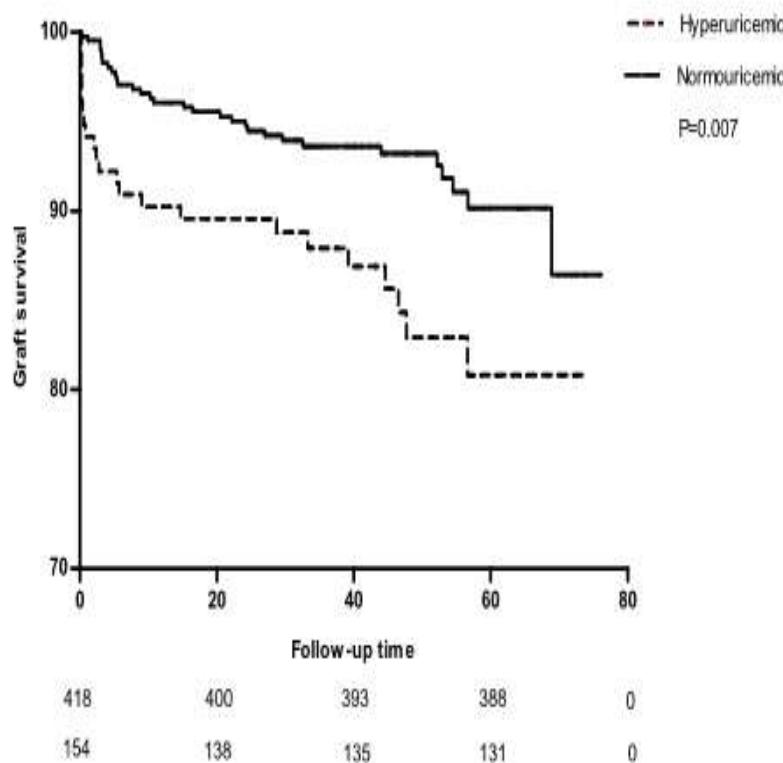
Ref.	Numerosity	Major findings
Gerhardt <i>et al</i> ^[48]	375	Hyperuricemia (> 8.0 mg/dL in men and > 6.2 mg/dL in women), associated with reduced graft survival
Armstrong <i>et al</i> ^[49]	90	UA independent predictor of follow-up e-GFR, but not of e-GFR change over time
Akgul <i>et al</i> ^[50]	133	No association found between serum UA and the development of chronic allograft nephropathy
Saglam <i>et al</i> ^[51]	34	Serum UA associated to development of cyclosporine A nephropathy (biopsy proven)
Akalin <i>et al</i> ^[52]	307	Hyperuricemia 6 mo after transplantation significantly associated with new cardiovascular events and graft dysfunction
Bandukwala <i>et al</i> ^[53]	405	Hyperuricemia associated with cardiovascular events, and, inversely with e-GFR
Karbowska <i>et al</i> ^[54]	78	Hyperuricemia associated with markers of endothelial dysfunction and inflammation
Meier-Kriesche <i>et al</i> ^[55]	1645	UA levels one month after transplantation not associated with follow-up e-GFR, after adjustment for baseline renal function
Haririan <i>et al</i> ^[56]	212	Serum UA during the first six months postransplant, is an independent predictor of graft survival
Boratyńska <i>et al</i> ^[57]	100	Serum UA not associated to graft survival during 30 mo of follow-up
Kim <i>et al</i> ^[58]	556	Serum UA levels affect graft function, even after adjustment for baseline e-GFR
Wang <i>et al</i> ^[59]	524	Retrospective study: UA significantly lower in patients with longer graft survival

Contd.,

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Serum Uric Acid and Renal Transplantation Outcomes: At Least 3-Year Post-transplant Retrospective Multivariate Analysis

PLOS ONE | DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0133834 July 24, 2015



- Significant association between serum UA level and poor outcomes after adjustment for confounders including infection and rejection episode.
- Early stage post-transplant UA level can act as a predictor for renal function at multiple time points after transplant (up to 6m).

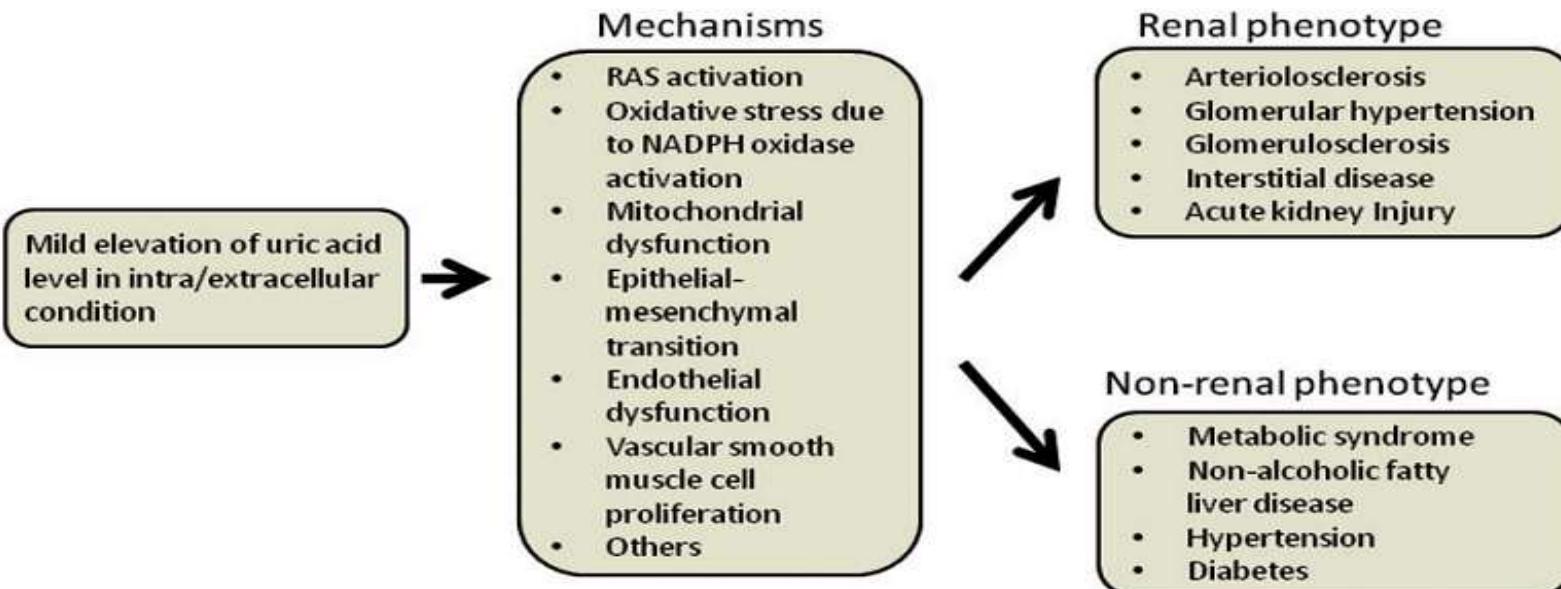
Pathophysiology

Nephrol Dial Transplant (2013) 28: 2221–2228
doi: 10.1093/ndt/gft029
Advance Access publication 29 March 2013

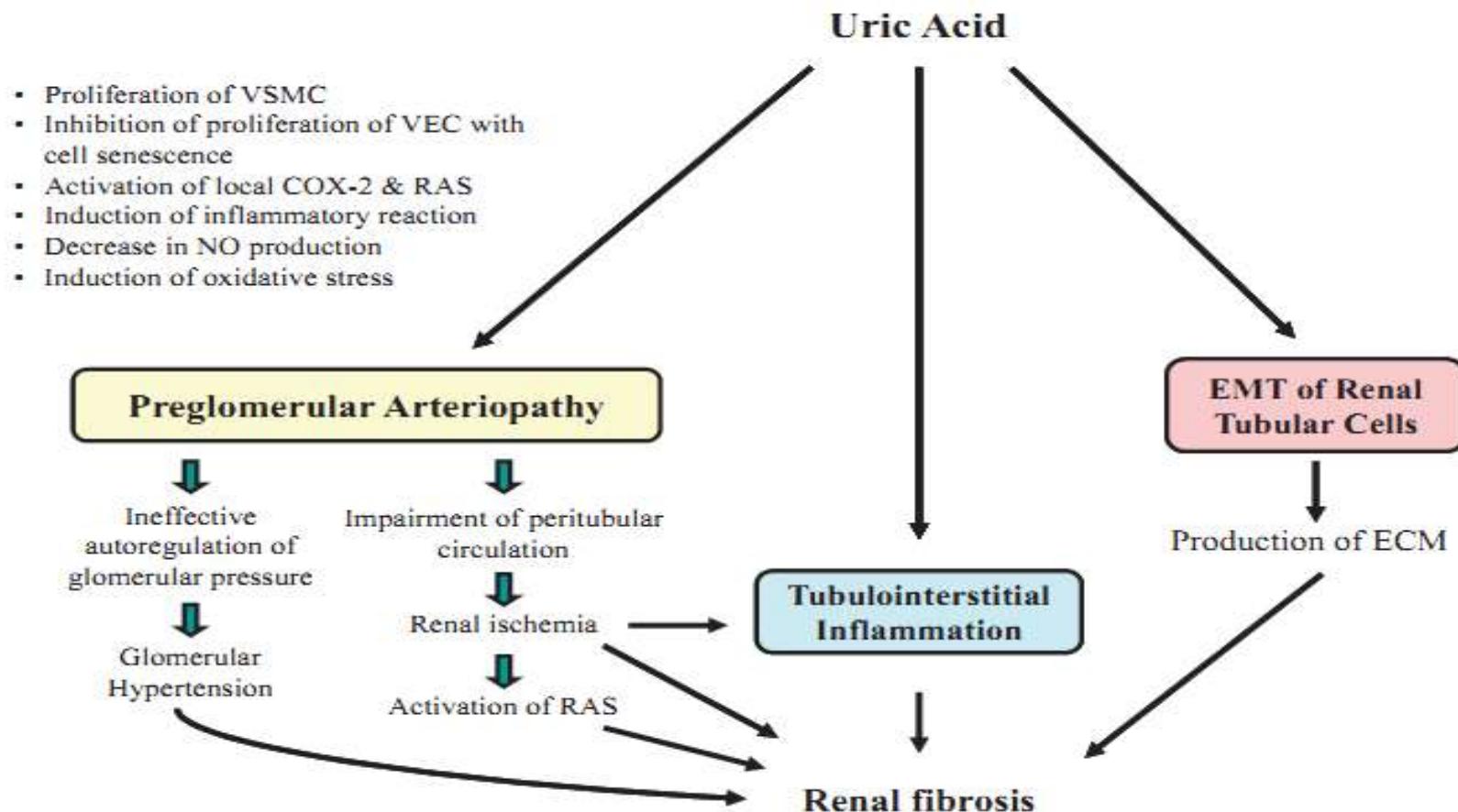


Full Reviews

Uric acid and chronic kidney disease: which is chasing which?



Contd.,



Abstract ▾

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[Circ J. 2015 Aug 21. \[Epub ahead of print\]](#)

High Concentrations of Uric Acid Inhibit Angiogenesis via Regulation of the Krüppel-Like Factor 2-Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor-A Axis by miR-92a.

[Yu S¹](#), [Hong Q](#), [Wang Y](#), [Hou K](#), [Wang L](#), [Zhang Y](#), [Fu B](#), [Zhou Y](#), [Zheng W](#), [Chen X](#), [Wu D](#).

Author information

Abstract

BACKGROUND: Angiogenesis is a critical component of many pathological conditions, and microRNAs (miRNAs) are indispensable in angiogenesis. It is unclear whether miRNAs regulate angiogenesis in the presence of high concentrations of uric acid (HUA), and the underlying mechanisms remain unknown. **Methods and Results:** It was found that HUA inhibited the angiogenic ability of endothelial cells. miRNA expression profiling was conducted using microarray assays in HUA-stimulated endothelial cells. Eighteen differentially expressed miRNAs were subjected to bioinformatic analyses. The results indicated that miR-92a was negatively regulated and was closely related to angiogenesis. Furthermore, the effects of miR-92a on HUA-stimulated endothelial cell angiogenesis and the underlying mechanisms were investigated in dual-luciferase reporter assays, electrophoretic mobility shift assays, immunoblot assays, and tube formation assays. It was determined that Krüppel-like factor 2 (KLF2) is a target gene of miR-92a, and KLF2 binds the vascular endothelial growth factor-A (VEGFA) promoter to inhibit its expression. miR-92a and VEGFA overexpression or KLF2 downregulation alleviates the HUA-mediated inhibition of angiogenesis in endothelial cells *in vitro*.

CONCLUSIONS: This study reported that there is a novel pathway regulating angiogenesis under HUA conditions. In the presence of HUA, miR-92a downregulation increased KLF2 expression, subsequently inhibiting VEGFA, which resulted in decreased angiogenesis. Thus, this study reports a possible mechanism for cardiovascular injury caused by hyperuricemia and suggests that the miR-92a-KLF2-VEGFA axis may be a target for hyperuricemia treatment.

Could it be a predictor?

Abstract ▾

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[Eur J Intern Med.](#) 2015 Aug 20; pii: S0953-6205(15)00223-X. doi: 10.1016/j.ejim.2015.06.016. [Epub ahead of print]

Clinical implications and outcome prediction in chronic hemodialysis patients with lower serum potassium×uric acid product.

Jiang MY¹, Hwang JC², Li YH¹, Wang CJ¹

⊕ Author information

Abstract

BACKGROUND: The aims of this study were to evaluate correlations between serum potassium (S[K]) and uric acid (S[UA]) in hemodialysis patients and to determine whether lower levels of both S[K] and S[UA] were associated with poor long-term prognoses in these patients.

METHODS: A cohort of 424 maintenance hemodialysis patients (58 ± 13 years of age; 47% male; 39% with diabetes) from a single center were divided into tertiles based on the product of S[K]×S[UA] (K×UA). Group 1, low K×UA, n=141, Group 2, median K×UA, n=141, and Group 3, high K×UA, n=142. The longest observation period was 60 months.

RESULTS: S[K] showed a positive linear correlation with S[UA] ($r=0.33$; $p<0.001$). In multivariate logistic regression analysis, Group 1 was characterized by hypoalbuminemia (odds ratio [OR]=0.20, 95% confidence interval (CI)=0.11-0.35) and lower levels of normalized protein catabolism [nPCR] (OR=0.10, 95% CI=0.05-0.22) and phosphate levels (OR=0.41, 95% CI=0.33-0.51). In contrast, Group 3 was associated with higher nPCR (OR=6.17, 95% CI=2.93-12.41) and albumin levels (OR=2.12, 95% CI=2.12-7.11). Compared to the reference (Group 1), the hazard ratio (HR) for long-term mortality was significantly lower in Groups 2 (HR=0.65, 95% CI=0.43-0.99) and 3 (HR=0.56, 95% CI=0.36-0.89). In multivariate Cox proportional analysis, the risk of mortality decreased by 2% (HR=0.98; 95% CI=0.96-0.99) per 1 unit increase in K×UA product.

CONCLUSION: Hemodialysis patients with lower S[K] and [UA] levels were characterized by hypoalbuminemia and lower nPCR, and they were associated with a long-term mortality risk.

Abstract ▾

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J Cardiothorac Vasc Anesth. 2014 Dec;28(6):1440-7. doi: 10.1053/j.jvca.2014.04.020. Epub 2014 Sep 20.

Association of preoperative uric acid and acute kidney injury following cardiovascular surgery.

Joung KW¹, Jo JY¹, Kim WJ¹, Choi DK¹, Chin JH¹, Lee EH², Choi IC¹.

⊕ Author information

Abstract

OBJECTIVE: Recent studies suggested that elevated serum uric acid levels may be associated with the risk of acute kidney injury (AKI) in several settings. However, the effect of uric acid on the risk of AKI after cardiovascular surgery remains uncertain.

DESIGN: A retrospective analysis.

SETTING: A tertiary care university hospital.

PARTICIPANTS: All consecutive adult patients ($n = 1,019$) who underwent cardiovascular surgery between January 2011 and May 2012.

INTERVENTIONS: None.

MEASUREMENTS AND MAIN RESULTS: Preoperative and perioperative data were assessed in the study population. AKI was defined and staged as serum creatinine concentration-based Acute Kidney Injury Network criteria. Univariate and multivariate logistic regression analyses were conducted to evaluate the association between preoperative uric acid and postoperative AKI. Preoperative elevated uric acid (≥ 6.5 mg/dL) was associated independently with AKI after cardiovascular surgery (odds ratio 1.46; 95% confidence interval 1.04-2.06, $p = 0.030$). Results were the same in subgroup analyses. Preoperative elevated uric acid (≥ 6.5 mg/dL) also was associated with a higher incidence of prolonged ICU and hospital stay.

CONCLUSIONS: Preoperative elevated serum uric acid is an independent risk factor for AKI in patients undergoing cardiovascular surgery. This finding suggests that preoperative measurements of serum uric acid concentration may help stratify risks for AKI in these patients.

Research Paper

Incidence and Risk Factors of Acute Kidney Injury after Radical Cystectomy: Importance of Preoperative Serum Uric Acid Level

Results: Of the 238 patients who met the eligibility criteria, 91 (38.2%) developed AKI. Univariate logistic regression analyses showed that male gender, high serum uric acid level, and long operation time associated with the development of AKI. On multivariate logistic regression analysis, pre-operative serum uric acid concentration (odds ratio [OR] = 1.251; 95% confidence interval [CI] = 1.048–1.493; $P = 0.013$) and operation time (OR = 1.005; 95% CI = 1.002–1.008; $P = 0.003$) remained as independent predictors of AKI after radical cystectomy.

Research Article

Use of Contrast-Enhanced Ultrasound to Study Relationship between Serum Uric Acid and Renal Microvascular Perfusion in Diabetic Kidney Disease

Purpose. To investigate the relationship between uric acid and renal microvascular perfusion in diabetic kidney disease (DKD) using contrast-enhanced ultrasound (CEUS) method. **Materials and Methods.** 79 DKD patients and 26 healthy volunteers were enrolled. Renal function and urine protein markers were tested. DKD patients were subdivided into two groups including a normal serum uric acid (SUA) group and a high SUA group. Contrast-enhanced ultrasound (CEUS) was performed, and low acoustic power contrast-specific imaging was used for quantitative analysis. **Results.** Normal controls (NCs) had the highest levels of AUC, AUC₁, and AUC₂. Compared to the normal SUA DKD group, high SUA DKD patients had significantly higher IMAX, AUC, and AUC₁ ($P < 0.05$). DKD patients with low urinary uric acid (UUA) excretion had significantly higher AUC₂ compared to DKD patients with normal UUA ($P < 0.05$). **Conclusion.** Hyperuricemia in DKD patients was associated with a renal ultrasound image suggestive of microvascular hyperperfusion. The CEUS parameter AUC₁ holds promise as an indicator for renal microvascular hyperperfusion, while AUC₂ might be a useful indicator of declining glomerular filtration rate in DKD patients with decreased excretion of uric acid.

Original Paper

Uric Acid Levels and All-Cause Mortality in Peritoneal Dialysis Patients

Conclusion

Our results demonstrate that in PD patients, a higher serum UA level is related to increased mortality and is an independent risk factor for all-cause mortality. The presence of other comorbidities such as DM or malnutrition may elevate mortality in PD patients with lower serum UA. To confirm this relationship and to clarify the underlying mechanisms, additional studies in larger PD populations should be conducted.

Relationship Between Serum Uric Acid Levels and Intrarenal Hemodynamic Parameters

inulin (C_{in}). **Methods:** Renal and glomerular hemodynamics were assessed by simultaneous measurement of C_{PAH} and C_{in} in 58 subjects. Of these, 19 subjects were planned to provide a kidney for transplantation; 26 had diabetes without proteinuria; and 13 had mild proteinuria. Renal and glomerular hemodynamics were calculated using Gomez's formulae. **Results:** C_{in} was more than 60 ml/min/1.73m² in all subjects. Serum uric acid levels correlated significantly with vascular resistance at the afferent arteriole (R_a) ($r = 0.354$, $p = 0.006$), but not with that of the efferent arteriole (R_e). Serum uric acid levels ($\beta = 0.581$, $p = <0.001$) were significantly and independently associated with R_a after adjustment for several confounders ($R^2 = 0.518$, $p = <0.001$). **Conclusions:** These findings suggest, for the first time in humans, that higher serum uric acid levels are associated significantly with R_a in subjects with $C_{in} > 60$ ml/min/1.73m².

Nomogram to predict uric acid kidney stones based on patient's age, BMI and 24-hour urine profiles: A multicentre validation

Results: We identified 445 patients, 355 from Cleveland, United States, and 90 from Sao Paulo, Brazil. Uric acid stone formers were 7.9% and 8.9%, respectively. Uric acid patients had a significantly higher age and BMI, as well as significant lower urinary calcium than calcium stone formers in both populations. Uric acid had significantly higher total points when scored according to the nomogram. ROC curves showed an area under the curve of 0.8 for Cleveland and 0.92 for Sao Paulo. The cutoff value that provided the highest sensitivity and specificity was 179 points and 192 for Cleveland and Sao Paulo, respectively. Using 180 points as a cutoff provided a sensitivity and specificity of 87.5% and 68% for Cleveland, and 100% and 42% for Sao Paulo. Higher cutoffs were associated with higher specificity. The main limitation of this study is that only patients from high volume hospitals with uric acid or calcium stones were included.

TTT

Table 4 Urate lowering drugs

Pharmacologic options for the treatment of hyperuricemia

Xanthine-oxidase inhibitors: Allopurinol, febuxostat

Uricosuric agents: Probenecid, sulfapyrazone, benzbromarone

Uricase: Rasburicase, pegloticase

Drugs and contrast media with hypouricemic properties, not primarily intended for the treatment of hyperuricemia

Acetohexamide, azauridine, chlorprothixene, dicumarol, estrogens, fenofibrate, glyceryl guaiacolate, itopanoic acid, losartan, meglumine iodapamide, phenylbutazone, salicylates and other NSAIDs, sodium diatrizoate, trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole

Contd.,

Table 5 Studies of uric-acid-lowering therapy in patients with chronic kidney disease

Ref.	Study population	Intervention	Study findings
Neal <i>et al</i> ⁶¹ , 2001	18 liver transplant recipients with gout (<i>n</i> = 8) and hyperuricemia (<i>n</i> = 10)	Allopurinol (dose not stated)	Mean serum creatinine decreased from 2.0 to 1.8 mg/dL over a median period of 3 mo
Fairbanks <i>et al</i> ⁶² , 2002	27 patients with FJHN	Allopurinol (dose not stated)	Early treatment associated with slower decline of renal function
Siu <i>et al</i> ⁶³ , 2006	54 CKD patients with proteinuria > 0.5 g per day, serum creatinine > 1.4 mg/dL and serum uric acid > 7.6 mg/dL	Allopurinol 100-200 mg daily or their usual allopurinol arm than the control arm therapy for 12 mo	Lower serum creatinine in the (2.0 ± 0.9 vs 2.9 ± 0.9 mg/dL; <i>P</i> = 0.08) and no differences in effect on proteinuria (2.53 ± 4.85 g per day vs 2.16 ± 1.93 g per day; <i>P</i> = NS)
Shelmadine <i>et al</i> ⁶⁴ , 2009	12 prevalent adult hemodialysis patients	Allopurinol 300 mg twice daily for 3 mo	Reduction in LDL cholesterol by 0.36 μmol/L (14 mg/dL) (<i>P</i> = 0.04)
Golcochecha <i>et al</i> ⁶⁵ , 2010	113 CKD patients with eGFR < 60 mL/min per 1.73 m ²	Allopurinol 100 mg daily or no study medication for 24 mo	Allopurinol slowed the decline in eGFR (1.3 ± 1.3 mL/min per 1.73 m ² vs -3.3 ± 1.2 mL/min per 1.73 m ²); no effect on BP
Kao <i>et al</i> ⁶⁶ , 2011	53 stage 3 CKD patients with LVH	Allopurinol 300 mg daily or placebo for 9 mo	Allopurinol reduced LVMI (-1.42 ± 4.67 g/m ² vs 1.28 ± 4.45 g/m ²) and improved brachial artery FMD (1.26% ± 3.06% vs -1.05% ± 2.84%); improved augmentation index (<i>P</i> = 0.015)
Momeni <i>et al</i> ⁶⁷ , 2010	40 patients with type 2 diabetes and overt nephropathy (proteinuria > 500 mg/24 h, placebo and serum creatinine < 3.0 mg/dL)	Allopurinol 100 mg or	Treated patients had lower serum UA and 24 h proteinuria after 4 mo of follow-up
Kanbay <i>et al</i> ⁶⁸ , 2011	30 hyperuricemic subjects vs 37 hyperuricemic and 30 normouricemic controls	4 mo treatment with Allopurinol 300 mg vs no study medication	Treated patients had increased e-GFR with respect to baseline

Am J Kidney Dis. 2006 Jan;47(1):51-9.

Use of allopurinol in slowing the progression of renal disease through its ability to lower serum uric acid level.

Siu YP¹, Leung KT, Tong MK, Kwan TH.

⊕ Author information

Abstract

BACKGROUND: Hyperuricemia is associated strongly with the development of hypertension, renal disease, and progression. Allopurinol decreases serum uric acid levels by inhibiting the enzyme xanthine oxidase. We hypothesized that administrating allopurinol to decrease serum uric acid levels to the normal range in hyperuricemic patients with chronic kidney disease may be of benefit in decreasing blood pressure and slowing the rate of renal disease progression in these patients.

METHODS: We conducted a prospective, randomized, controlled trial of 54 hyperuricemic patients with chronic kidney disease. Patients were randomly assigned to treatment with allopurinol, 100 to 300 mg/d, or to continue the usual therapy for 12 months. Clinical, hematologic, and biochemical parameters were measured at baseline and 3, 6, and 12 months of treatment. We define our study end points as: (1) stable kidney function with less than 40% increase in serum creatinine level, (2) impaired renal function with creatinine level increase greater than 40% of baseline value, (3) initiation of dialysis therapy, and (4) death.

RESULTS: One patient in the treatment group dropped out because of skin allergy to allopurinol. Serum uric acid levels were significantly decreased in subjects treated with allopurinol, from $9.75 \pm 1.18 \text{ mg/dL}$ ($0.58 \pm 0.07 \text{ mmol/L}$) to $5.88 \pm 1.01 \text{ mg/dL}$ ($0.35 \pm 0.06 \text{ mmol/L}$; $P < 0.001$). There were no significant differences in systolic or diastolic blood pressure at the end of the study comparing the 2 groups. There was a trend toward a lower serum creatinine level in the treatment group compared with controls after 12 months of therapy, although it did not reach statistical significance ($P = 0.08$). Overall, 4 of 25 patients (16%) in the allopurinol group reached the combined end points of significant deterioration in renal function and dialysis dependence compared with 12 of 26 patients (46.1%) in the control group ($P = 0.015$).

CONCLUSION: Allopurinol therapy significantly decreases serum uric acid levels in hyperuricemic patients with mild to moderate chronic kidney disease. Its use is safe and helps preserve kidney function during 12 months of therapy compared with controls. Results of this study need to be confirmed with an additional prospective trial involving a larger cohort of patients to determine the long-term efficacy of allopurinol therapy and in specific chronic kidney disease subpopulations.

Abstract ▾

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[Am J Kidney Dis.](#) 2015 Jul 30; S0272-6386(15)00846-X. doi: 10.1053/j.ajkd.2015.05.017. [Epub ahead of print]

Efficacy of Febuxostat for Slowing the GFR Decline in Patients With CKD and Asymptomatic Hyperuricemia: A 6-Month, Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Trial.

Sircar D¹, Chatterjee S², Waikhom R³, Golay V⁴, Raychaudhury A⁴, Chatterjee S², Pandey R⁴.

⊕ Author information

Abstract

BACKGROUND: Hyperuricemia is a putative risk factor for the progression of chronic kidney disease (CKD). We hypothesized that control of asymptomatic hyperuricemia may slow disease progression in CKD.

STUDY DESIGN: This was a single-center, double-blind, randomized, parallel-group, placebo-controlled study.

SETTING & PARTICIPANTS: Eligible participants were adults from Eastern India aged 18 to 65 years with CKD stages 3 and 4, with asymptomatic hyperuricemia.

INTERVENTION: The intervention group received febuxostat, 40mg, once daily for 6 months, while the placebo group received placebo; both groups were followed up for 6 months.

OUTCOMES: The primary outcome was the proportion of patients showing a >10% decline in estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) from baseline in the febuxostat and placebo groups. Secondary outcomes included changes in eGFRs in the 2 groups from baseline and at the end of the study period.

RESULTS: 45 patients in the febuxostat group and 48 in the placebo group were analyzed. Mean eGFR in the febuxostat group showed a nonsignificant increase from 31.5 ± 13.6 (SD) to 33.7 ± 16.6 mL/min/1.73m² at 6 months. With placebo, mean eGFR decreased from a baseline of 32.6 ± 11.6 to 28.2 ± 11.5 mL/min/1.73m² ($P=0.003$). The difference between groups was 6.5 (95% CI, $0.08-12.81$) mL/min/1.73m² at 6 months ($P=0.05$). 17 of 45 (38%) participants in the febuxostat group had a >10% decline in eGFR over baseline compared with 26 of 48 (54%) from the placebo group ($P<0.004$).

Ann Oncol. 2015 Jul 27. pii: mdv317. [Epub ahead of print]

FLORENCE: a randomized, double-blind, phase III pivotal study of febuxostat versus allopurinol for the prevention of tumor lysis syndrome (TLS) in patients with hematologic malignancies at intermediate to high TLS risk.

Spina M¹, Nagy Z², Ribera JM³, Federico M⁴, Aurer I⁵, Jordan K⁶, Borsaru G⁷, Pristupa AS⁸, Bosi A⁹, Grosicki S¹⁰, Glushko NL¹¹, Ristic D¹², Jakucs J¹³, Montesinos P¹⁴, Mayer J¹⁵, Rego EM¹⁶, Baldini S¹⁷, Scartoni S¹⁷, Capriati A¹⁷, Maggi CA¹⁷, Simonelli C; FLORENCE Study Group.

⊕ Author information

Abstract

BACKGROUND: Serum uric acid (sUA) control is of key relevance in tumor lysis syndrome (TLS) prevention as it correlates with both TLS and renal event risk. We sought to determine whether febuxostat fixed dose achieves a better sUA control than allopurinol while preserving renal function in TLS prevention.

PATIENTS AND METHODS: Patients with hematologic malignancies at intermediate to high TLS risk grade were randomized to receive febuxostat or allopurinol, starting 2 days before induction chemotherapy, for 7-9 days. Study treatment was blinded, whereas daily dose (low/standard/high containing allopurinol 200/300/600 mg, respectively, or fixed febuxostat 120 mg) depended on the investigator's choice. The co-primary end points, sUA area under curve (AUC sUA₁₋₈) and serum creatinine change, were assessed from baseline to day 8 and analyzed through analysis of covariance with two-sided overall significance level of 5%. Secondary end points included treatment responder rate, laboratory and clinical TLS incidence and safety.

RESULTS: A total of 346 patients (82.1% intermediate TLS risk; 82.7% assigned to standard dose) were randomized. Mean AUC sUA₁₋₈ was 514.0 ± 225.71 versus 708.0 ± 234.42 mgxh/dl ($P < 0.0001$) in favor of febuxostat. Mean serum creatinine change was $-0.83 \pm 26.98\%$ and $-4.92 \pm 16.70\%$ for febuxostat and allopurinol, respectively ($P = 0.0903$). No differences among secondary efficacy end points were detected. Drug-related adverse events occurred in 6.4% of patients in both arms.

CONCLUSION: In the largest adult trial carried out in TLS prevention, febuxostat achieved a significant superior sUA control with one fixed dose in comparison to allopurinol with comparable renal function preservation and safety profile.

Abstract ▾

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Transplant Proc. 2014;46(2):511-3. doi: 10.1016/j.transproceed.2013.09.045.**Efficacy and safety of febuxostat, a novel nonpurine selective inhibitor of xanthine oxidase for the treatment of hyperuricemia in kidney transplant recipients.**Tojimbara T¹, Nakajima I², Yashima J³, Fuchinoue S², Teraoka S³.**⊕ Author information****Abstract**

BACKGROUND: Febuxostat, a novel nonpurine selective inhibitor of xanthine oxidase, is a potential alternative to allopurinol for patients with hyperuricemia. In this study, we evaluated the efficacy and safety of febuxostat for the management of hyperuricemia in renal transplant recipients.

PATIENTS AND METHODS: Between June 2012 and January 2013, a total of 22 renal transplant recipients (56 ± 10 years old) with hyperuricemia were enrolled in this study. All patients underwent de novo kidney transplantation, except for 1 patient, who received a second kidney transplant. Ten patients receiving allopurinol and 3 patients receiving benzbromarone were converted to febuxostat at doses of 10-20 mg/d. In the remaining 9 patients, who did not have a history of other urate-lowering medications, febuxostat was initiated at a dose of 10 mg/d.

RESULTS: Uric acid levels after initiation of febuxostat were significantly lower than before treatment (5.7 ± 0.7 mg/mL vs 8.0 ± 0.8 mg/mL; $P < .001$). At last follow-up visit, 16 of the 22 patients (73%) achieved uric acid levels of ≤ 6.0 mg/dL, despite the low dosage of febuxostat. All patients were maintained on febuxostat without serious adverse events, except for 1 patient, who discontinued febuxostat because of numbness in the arms.

CONCLUSIONS: Low-dose febuxostat is a promising alternative to allopurinol or benzbromarone for the treatment of hyperuricemia in kidney transplant recipients. The long-term urate-lowering efficacy and safety of febuxostat with regard to renal function in kidney transplant recipients with hyperuricemia requires further investigation.

Abstract ▾

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Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci. 2007 May-Jun;11(3):179-84.**Is rasburicase an effective alternative to allopurinol for management of hyperuricemia in renal failure patients? A double blind-randomized study.**De Angelis S¹, Noce A, Di Renzo L, Cianci R, Naticchia A, Giarrizzo GF, Giordano F, Tozzo C, Splendiani G, De Lorenzo A.**⊕ Author information****Abstract**

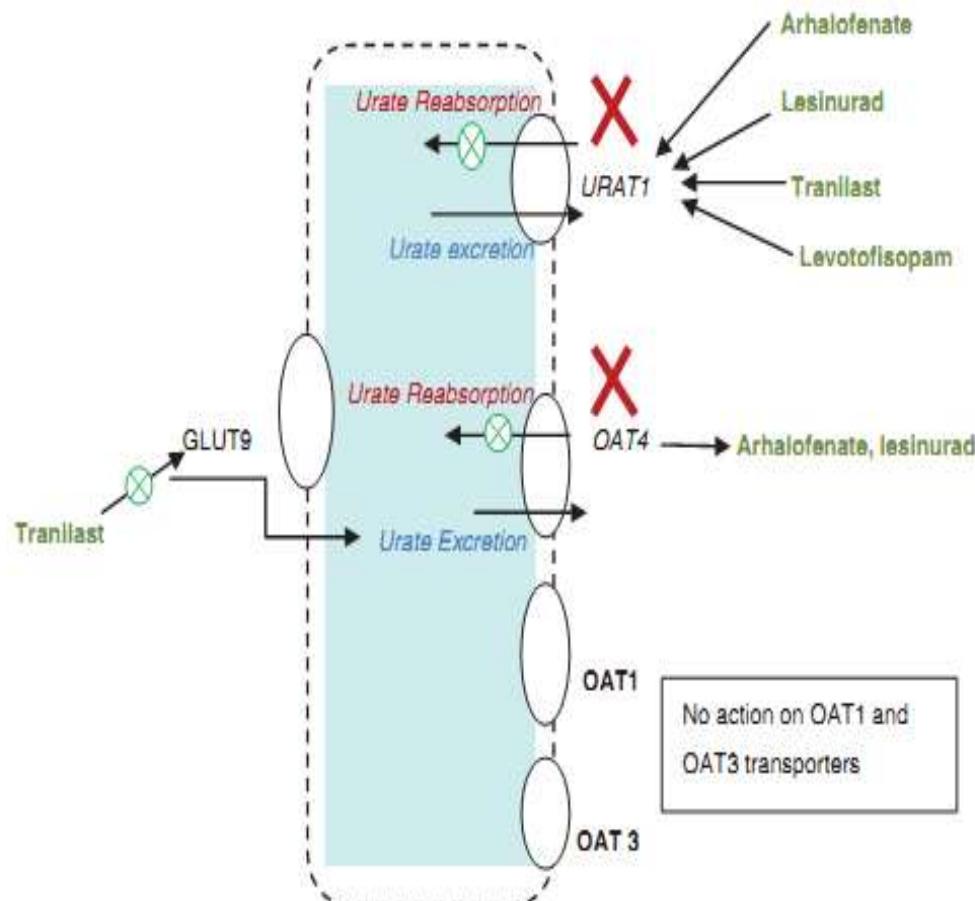
Recent epidemiological studies provide a clear evidence that hyperuricemia is associated with hypertension, coronary heart disease, left ventricular hypertrophy and progression of renal disease. Aim of our study was to assess the effect of low dosage of recombinant urate oxidase on hyperuricemia in renal failure patients that already receiving allopurinol. Our study group consisted of 43 renal failure patients, 23 women and 20 men. The mean age was 74 years (range 36-90 years). The following variables were studied on admission: serum creatinine, blood urea nitrogen and serum uric acid. Intravenous rasburicase was administered at a dose of 0.02 mg/kg/day on 3 consecutive days in patients with serum uric acid between 8-10 mg/dl, on 5 consecutive days in patients with serum uric acid between 10-15 mg/dl and on 7 consecutive days in patients with serum uric acid > 15 mg/dl. Uric acid levels were assayed after 48 hours and 7 days after rasburicase treatment. Mean values of uric acid levels after 48 hours were 2.47 mg/dl (+/- 1.58) in men and 2.77 mg/dl (+/- 2.24) in woman, whereas mean values of uric acid levels after 7 days were 4.45 mg/dl (+/- 2.0) in men and 5.75 mg/dl (+/- 1.9) in woman. No significant relationship were found between uric acid and creatinine as before as well after therapy. There were no side effects in all patients included in the study. After 7 days, the rasburicase therapy showed more antihyperuricemic effect in men (59%) than in women (46%).

EXPERT OPINION

Investigational drugs for hyperuricemia

Expert Opin. Investig. Drugs (2015) 24(8)

- a) Inhibitors of reabsorption
- b) Urate synthesis inhibitors:
 - Ulodesine
- c) Others:
 - Marine active
 - AC-201(IL- β 1) inhibitor
 - KX-1151(XO, URAT1 inhibitor)



Abstract ▾

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[Yao Xue Xue Bao](#). 2010 Oct;45(10):1239-46.**[Mangiferin promotes uric acid excretion and kidney function improvement and modulates related renal transporters in hyperuricemic mice].**

[Article in Chinese]

[Hu QH¹](#), [Zhang X](#), [Wang Y](#), [Kong LD](#).**⊕ Author information****Abstract**

The effects of mangiferin on uric acid excretion, kidney function and related renal transporters were investigated in hyperuricemic mice induced by potassium oxonate. Mice were divided into normal control group, and 5 hyperuricemic groups with model control, 50, 100, and 200 mg x kg(-1) mangiferin, and 5 mg x kg(-1) allopurinol. Mice were administered by gavage once daily with 250 mg x kg(-1) potassium oxonate for seven consecutive days to create the model. And 3 doses of mangiferin were orally initiated on the day 1 h after potassium oxonate was given, separately. Serum uric acid, creatinine and urea nitrogen levels, as well as urinary uric acid/creatinine levels were measured. Mouse uromodulin (mUMOD) levels in serum, urine and kidney were determined by ELISA method. The mRNA and protein levels of related renal transporters were assayed by RT-PCR and Western blotting methods, respectively. Compared to model group, mangiferin significantly reduced serum uric acid, creatinine and urea nitrogen levels, increased 24 h uric acid and creatinine excretion, and fractional excretion of uric acid in hyperuricemic mice, exhibiting uric acid excretion enhancement and kidney function improvement. Mangiferin was found to down-regulate mRNA and protein levels of urate transporter 1 (mURAT1) and glucose transporter 9 (mGLUT9), as well as up-regulate organic anion transporter 1 (mOAT1) in the kidney of hyperuricemic mice. These findings suggested that mangiferin might enhance uric acid excretion and in turn reduce serum uric acid level through the decrease of uric acid reabsorption and the increase of uric acid secretion in hyperuricemic mice. Moreover, mangiferin remarkably up-regulated expression levels of renal organic cation and carnitine transporters (mOCT1, mOCT2, mOCTN1 and mOCTN2), increased urine mUMOD levels, as well as decreased serum and kidney mUMOD levels in hyperuricemic mice, which might be involved in mangiferin-mediated renal protective action.

Abstract ▾

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Planta Med. 2011 May;77(8):786-94. doi: 10.1055/s-0030-1250599. Epub 2010 Dec 10.

Mulberroside A possesses potent uricosuric and nephroprotective effects in hyperuricemic mice.

Wang CP¹, Wang Y, Wang X, Zhang X, Ye JF, Hu LS, Kong LD.

⊕ Author information

Abstract

Mulberroside A is a major stilbene glycoside of *MORUS ALBA L.* (Moraceae), which is effectively used for the treatment of hyperuricemia and gout in traditional Chinese medicine. We examined whether mulberroside A had effects on renal urate underexcretion and dysfunction in oxonate-induced hyperuricemic mice and investigated the potential uricosuric and nephroprotective mechanisms involved. Mulberroside A at 10, 20, and 40 mg/kg decreased serum uric acid levels and increased urinary urate excretion and fractional excretion of uric acid in hyperuricemic mice. Simultaneously, it reduced serum levels of creatinine and urea nitrogen (10-40 mg/kg), urinary N-acetyl- β -D-glucosaminidase activity (10-40 mg/kg), β_2 -microglobulin (10-40 mg/kg) and albumin (20-40 mg/kg), and increased creatinine clearance (10-40 mg/kg) in hyperuricemic mice. Furthermore, mulberroside A downregulated mRNA and protein levels of renal glucose transporter 9 (mGLUT9) and urate transporter 1 (mURAT1), and upregulated mRNA and protein levels of renal organic anion transporter 1 (mOAT1) and organic cation and carnitine transporters (mOCT1, mOCT2, mOCTN1, and mOCTN2) in hyperuricemic mice. This is the first study demonstrating that mulberroside A exhibits uricosuric and nephroprotective effects mediated in part by cooperative attenuation of the expression alterations of renal organic ion transporters in hyperuricemic mice. These data suggest that mulberroside A may be a new drug candidate for the treatment of hyperuricemia with renal dysfunction.

Abstract ▾

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[Chin J Nat Med.](#) 2013 May;11(3):214-21. doi: 10.1016/S1875-5364(13)60019-9.

Wuling san ameliorates urate under-excretion and renal dysfunction in hyperuricemic mice.

Ding XQ¹, Pan Y, Wang X, Ma YX, Kong LD.

⊕ Author information

Abstract

AIM: The present study was undertaken to characterize the effects of Wuling San on urate excretion and renal function, and explore its possible mechanisms of action in hyperuricemic mice.

METHODS: Mice were administered with 250 mg·kg(-1) potassium oxonate by gavage once daily (10 animals/group) for seven consecutive days to develop a hyperuricemia model. Different doses of Wuling powder were orally initiated on the day 1 h after oxonate was given, separately. Allopurinol was used as a positive control. Serum and urine levels of uric acid and creatinine, and fractional excretion of uric acid (FEUA) were measured in hyperuricemic mice treated with Wuling San and allopurinol. Simultaneously, renal mRNA and protein levels of urate transporter 1 (mURAT1), glucose transporter 9 (mGLUT9), organic anion transporter 1 (mOAT1), as well as organic cation/carnitine transporters mOCT1, mOCT2 and mOCTN2, were assayed by semi-quantitative RT-PCR and Western blot methods, respectively.

RESULTS AND CONCLUSION: Compared to the hyperuricemia control group, Wuling San significantly reduced serum uric acid and creatinine levels, increased 24 h urate and creatinine excretion, and FEUA in hyperuricemic mice, exhibiting its ability to enhance urate excretion and improve kidney function. Wuling San was found to down-regulate mRNA and protein levels of mURAT1 and mGLUT9, as well as up-regulate mOAT1 in the kidney of hyperuricemic mice. Moreover, Wuling San up-regulated renal mRNA and protein levels of mOCT1, mOCT2 and mOCTN2, leading to kidney protection in this model.

Abstract ▾

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[Eur J Nutr.](#) 2012 Aug;51(5):593-606. doi: 10.1007/s00394-011-0243-y. Epub 2011 Sep 10.**Quercetin regulates organic ion transporter and uromodulin expression and improves renal function in hyperuricemic mice.**[Hu QH¹](#), [Zhang X](#), [Wang X](#), [Jiao RQ](#), [Kong LD](#).[⊕ Author information](#)**Abstract**

BACKGROUND: Renal organic ion transporters and uromodulin (UMOD) play the important roles in renal urate excretion and function. Hyperuricemia is considered as a risk factor for the development of renal dysfunction. The flavonoid quercetin in diets exerts the hypouricemic and nephroprotective effects.

PURPOSES: To evaluate the effects of quercetin on renal organic ion transporters and UMOD in hyperuricemic mice.

METHODS: Kun-Ming mice were divided into normal and hyperuricemic groups receiving water, 25, 50 and 100 mg/kg quercetin, 5 mg/kg allopurinol, respectively. Hyperuricemic mice were orally gavaged with 250 mg/kg oxonate daily for 1 week. Quercetin and allopurinol were orally gavaged on the day when oxonate or water was given 1 h later. After 1 week, serum uric acid, creatinine and blood urea nitrogen concentrations, excretion of urate and creatinine, and fractional excretion of uric acid were measured. The mRNA and protein levels of renal urate transporter 1 (mURAT1), glucose transporter 9 (mGLUT9), organic anion transporter 1 (mOAT1) and organic cation/carnitine transporters (mOCT1, mOCT2, mOCTN1 and mOCTN2) in mice were analyzed. Simultaneously, UMOD levels in serum, urine and kidney, as well as renal UMOD mRNA expression were detected.

RESULTS: Quercetin significantly restored oxonate-induced abnormalities of these biochemical indexes compared with normal vehicle group. Furthermore, it remarkably prevented expression changes of renal organic ion transporters and UMOD, and UMOD level alteration in hyperuricemic mice.

CONCLUSIONS: These results suggest that quercetin has the uricosuric and nephroprotective actions mediated by regulating the expression levels of renal organic ion transporters and UMOD.

J Hypertens. 2008 Dec;26(12):2326-38. doi: 10.1097/HJH.0b013e328312c8c1.

Activation of ATP-sensitive potassium channels protects vascular endothelial cells from hypertension and renal injury induced by hyperuricemia.

Long CL¹, Qin XC, Pan ZY, Chen K, Zhang YF, Cui WY, Liu GS, Wang H.

⊕ Author information

Abstract

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES: It has been demonstrated that hyperuricemia induces reno-cardiovascular damage resulting in hypertension and renal injury because of vascular endothelial dysfunction. The pathogenesis of hyperuricemia, endothelial dysfunction, hypertension, and renal injury is progressive, and develops into a vicious cycle. It is reasonable to suggest that an antihypertensive drug with endothelial protection may block this vicious cycle. Iptakalim, a novel antihypertensive drug undergoing phase-three clinical trials, is a new ATP-sensitive potassium channel opener and can ameliorate endothelial dysfunction. We hypothesized that iptakalim could prevent hypertension and retard the pathogenesis of endothelial dysfunction and renal injury in hyperuricemic rats.

METHODS AND RESULTS: In rats with hyperuricemia induced by 2% oxonic acid and 0.1 mmol/l uric acid, iptakalim prevented increases in systolic blood pressure, reduced the impairment of endothelial vasodilator function, and attenuated renal dysfunction and pathological changes in glomerular and renal interstitial tissue at 0.5, 1.5, and 4.5 mg/kg orally daily for 4 weeks. Serum levels of nitric oxide and prostacyclin, and gene expression of endothelial nitric oxide synthase in the aortic and intrarenal tissue, were increased, whereas the serum levels of endothelin-1 and gene expression of endothelin-1 in aortic and intrarenal tissue were decreased. However, serum levels of angiotensin II and renin remained unchanged in the hyperuricemic rats treated with iptakalim. In cultured rat aortic endothelial cells, amelioration of endothelial dysfunction by iptakalim was suggested by inhibition of the overexpression of intercellular adhesive molecule-1, vascular cell adhesive molecule-1, and monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 mRNA induced by uric acid, and reversal of the inhibitory effects of uric acid on nitric oxide release in a concentration-dependent manner, which could be abolished by pretreatment with glibenclamide, an ATP-sensitive potassium channel blocker. Iptakalim ameliorated hyperuricemia in this rat model by decreasing renal damage through its antihypertensive and endothelial protective properties, and it had no direct effects on anabolism, catabolism and excretion of uric acid.

CONCLUSION: These findings suggest that the activation of ATP-sensitive potassium channels by iptakalim can protect endothelial function against hypertension and renal injury induced by hyperuricemia. Iptakalim is suitable for use in hypertensive individuals with hyperuricemia.

THANK YOU

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